Answers for turf critics

Turf critics claim that grass uses half of the outdoor water supply. They even go so far as to say that any use of water on turf is a waste. “Low water use” plants or “native” plants are suggested alternatives to eliminate water shortages.

Truth is, says Doug Fender, executive director of the Turf Resource Center, only one percent of the surface and ground-water used in the U.S. is taken for domestic purposes. And of that amount, only one-third is used for outside purposes, which includes washing cars, filling swimming pools and watering gardens and lawns.

“Eliminating lawn watering would have minimal effect on America’s total water use,” says Fender. “However, the resulting loss of turfgrass would be catastrophic to the environment.”

Use caution, says Fender, before you chase after “low water use” or “native” plants. These species’ water use characteristics have not been as thoroughly researched as turfgrass, he says.

“Education about when and how to water, mow and fertilize is the most effective way to promote more healthy lawns that can provide sound environmental benefits,” says Fender.

The Turf Resource Center is a division of Turfgrass Producers International, Rolling Meadows, Ill.

Old landscapers never die...

...they just go to pot! Seen at the Cleveland ‘Floralscape’ show, this flower pot man managed to stay motionless for the show’s duration! Pot-man’s stony countenance is a testimony to his endurance as a show attraction. And he works dirt-cheap! Tom Barco, a general manager at Barco’s Liberty Gardens, Medina, Ohio, assembled the figure after seeing a photo of a smaller version. The company does an extensive container business, and ‘pot-man’ was a great tie-in, says Barco. The annual ‘Floralscape’ show, held in March, draws companies and consumers from all parts of Ohio, with lots of over-the-counter selling and some displays of lightweight equipment.

From one legend to another:

“When he is in the right mood, he is probably the greatest scorer in the game...possibly that the game has ever seen.”

—BOBBY JONES, ON GENE SARAZEN, LEFT, WHO THIS MONTH GETS THE DONALD ROSS AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS.

QUOTE REPRINTED FROM “GOLF SHORTS,” BY GLENN LIEBMAN, COPYRIGHT 1995, CONTEMPORARY BOOKS. USED BY PERMISSION.

Grab Bag features brief observations and prognostications throughout the green industry. If you have an unusual photo or comment you’d like to share with us, please send it in...
NAME (please print) ____________________________________________

TITLE _______________________________________________________

FIRM _________________________________________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________________________________

CITY ____________________ STATE ______ ZIP ______

PHONE ( ) _______ FAX ( ) ________

INTERNET/E-MAIL ADDRESS _____________________________________

I would like to receive (continue receiving) LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT free each month:  Yes  no

Signature: ______________________ Date: _________________________

4a. Do you specify, purchase or influence the selection of landscape products?  Yes  no

4b. If yes, check which products you buy or specify: (check ALL that apply)

31. 1 Aerators
32. 2 Blowers
33. 3 Chain Saws
34. 4 Chipper-Shredders
35. 5 De-Icers
36. 6 Fertilizers
37. 7 Herbicides
38. 8 Herbicides
39. 9 Insecticides
40. 10 Leaf Trimmers
41. 11 Mowers (reel/rotary)
42. 12 Snow Removal Equipment
43. 13 Sprayers
44. 14 Spreaders
45. 15 Sweepers
46. 16 Tractors
47. 17 Truck Trailers/Attachments
48. 18 Trucks
49. 19 Turfseed
50. 20 Utility Vehicles

5. Do you have a modem?  Yes  no

6. Do you subscribe to an on-line service?  Yes  no

7. Is CD-ROM available in your workplace?  Yes  no

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 950 PITTSFIELD MA
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES
May 1997

This card is void after July 15, 1997

I would like to receive (continue receiving) LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT free each month: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

1. My primary business at this location is: (check ONE only)
   01 ☐ 250 GOLF COURSES
   02 ☐ 255 Landscape Contractors (installation and maintenance)
   03 ☐ 260 Lawn Care Service Companies
   04 ☐ 265 Custom Chemical Applications (ground and air)
   05 ☐ 270 Tree Service Companies/Arborists
   06 ☐ 300 Right-of-Way Maintenance for Highways, Railroads or Utilities
   07 ☐ 305 Schools, Colleges, Universities
   08 ☐ 310 Industrial or Office Parks/Plants
   09 ☐ 315 Shopping Centers, Plazas or Malls
   10 ☐ 320 Private/Public Estates or Museums

INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES
   10 ☐ 325 Condos/Apartments/Housing Developments/Hotels/Resorts
   11 ☐ 330 Cemeteries/Memorial Gardens
   12 ☐ 335 Hospitals/Health Care Institutions
   13 ☐ 340 Military Installations or Prisons
   14 ☐ 345 Airports
   15 ☐ 350 Multiple Government Municipal Facilities
   16 ☐ 355 Extension Agents/Consultants for Horticulture
   17 ☐ 360 Sod Growers/Turf Seed Growers/Nurseries
   18 ☐ 365 Dealers/Distributors/Formulators/Brokers

SUPPLIERS & CONSULTANTS
   19 ☐ 370 Manufacturers
   20 ☐ 375 Other (please specify)

2. Which of the following best describes your title? (check ONE only)
   21 ☐ 380 Executive/Administrator- President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Director of Physical Plant
   22 ☐ 385 Manager/Superintendent- Arborist, Architect, Landscape/Grounds Manager, Superintendent, Foreman, Supervisor
   23 ☐ 390 Government Official- Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
   24 ☐ 395 Specialist- Forester, Consultant, Agronomist, Pilot, Instructor, Researcher, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
   25 ☐ Other Titled and Non-Titled personnel (please specify)

3. SERVICES PERFORMED (Check ALL that apply)
   26 ☐ Mowing
   27 ☐ Fertilization
   28 ☐ Insect Control
   29 ☐ Tree Care
   30 ☐ Aeration
   31 ☐ Irrigation Services
   32 ☐ Landscape/Aerial Photography

4a. Do you specify, purchase or influence the selection of landscape products? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4b. If yes, check which products you buy or specify: (check ALL that apply)
   33 ☐ Aerators
   34 ☐ Blowers
   35 ☐ Chain Saws
   36 ☐ Chipper-Shredders
   37 ☐ De-icers
   38 ☐ Insecticides
   39 ☐ Line Trimmers
   40 ☐ Mowers (reel/rotary)
   41 ☐ Snow Removal Equipment
   42 ☐ Snow Removal Equipment
   43 ☐ Sprayers
   44 ☐ Tractors
   45 ☐ Trucks
   46 ☐ Utility Vehicles

5. Do you have a modem? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Do you subscribe to an on-line service? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Is CD-ROM available in your workplace? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Weeds? What Weeds?

- Scythe® is an amazingly fast-acting herbicide that lets you see results in minutes or hours, instead of days or weeks.
- Scythe is made from a naturally occurring fatty acid that is environmentally friendly.
- Use Scythe around homes, in parks, on golf courses, along highways and fences, in greenhouses and nurseries.
- There is no soil persistence so it can be applied to seed beds right before planting and around shrubs, trees and other ornamentals.

- Tank mix Scythe with other systemic herbicides like glyphosate and satisfy customers with fast results and long term control. An effect so unique, it's patented.

See your chemical dealer or call Mycogen at 1-800-745-7476.